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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 13, 1981 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 7 totaled an estimated 18.6 billion ton-miles, 2.1 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 45 weeks of 1981 was an estimated 809.1 billion ton-miles, 1.6 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 7 totaled 424,838 cars, 7.2 percent below 1980, and 4.3 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 7.3 percent in the East, 5.7 percent in the South, and 8.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1980, 17 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, coal loadings were up 12,539 cars, or 10.5 percent.

Seventeen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads during the week ended October 31 totaled 36,872 cars, up 8.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1980, and 67,647 trailers and/or containers, up 9.7 percent from last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 44 weeks of the year was 1,447,301 cars, 2.2 percent higher than last year, and 2,628,940 trailers and/or containers, 2.2 percent higher than last year.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/7/81:

	Loadings in Week ended November 7, 1981		Change from Corresponding Week 1980			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,538	D	6,438	17.4	I	1,685	5.8
Other farm products	6,487	I	1,049	19.3	D	237	3.5
Metallic ores	23,337	D	3,740	13.8	D	3,843	14.1
Coal	131,973	I	12,539	10.5	D	4,982	3.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,284	D	3,602	24.2	I	11	0.1
Nonmetallic minerals	11,247	D	4,315	27.7	D	782	6.5
Grain mill products	13,858	D	3,070	18.1	D	308	2.2
Food and kindred products	15,333	D	2,612	14.6	D	96	0.6
Primary forest products	17,748	D	2,510	12.4	I	734	4.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,923	D	3,169	34.9	D	899	13.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,977	D	1,397	7.2	D	1,398	7.2
Chemicals and allied products	23,736	D	3,602	13.2	D	741	3.0
Petroleum products	5,177	D	151	2.8	D	8	0.2
Stone, clay and glass products	12,292	D	3,618	22.7	D	326	2.6
Coke	6,199	I	714	13.0	I	407	7.0
Metals and products	12,711	D	2,119	14.3	D	1,632	11.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,403	D	5,310	26.9	D	2,254	13.5
Waste and scrap materials	10,301	D	2,616	20.3	D	814	7.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,698	D	1,532	13.6	D	525	5.1
All other carloads	44,398	I	2,807	6.7	D	2,819	6.0
LCL traffic	218	D	31	12.4	D	87	28.5
Total Cars Loaded	424,838	D	32,723	7.2	D	18,914	4.3
Corresponding week of 1980	457,561						

	1981	1980	% Change	
Total Cars Loaded (45 weeks)	18,986,095	19,677,772	D	3.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
44 Weeks cumulative	790.5	777.0	I	1.7
Week ended November 7	18.6	19.0	D	2.1
45 Weeks cumulative	809.1	796.0	I	1.6

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